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Charles  
4/30/03

219.37081X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: MERCHANT et al.

Serial No.: 09/474,096

Filed: December 29, 1999

For: PROCESSOR WITH A REPLAY SYSTEM THAT INCLUDES A  
REPLAY QUEUE FOR IMPROVED THROUGHPUT

Art Unit: 2154

Examiner: L. Donaghue

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APR 28 2003

Technology Center 2100

ELECTION WITH TRAVERSE

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

April 24, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 24, 2003, applicants  
provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-12. The election is made with traverse.

Applicant respectfully submits that the subject matter of Group I and Group II  
is sufficiently related that the two groups of claims should be examined together.  
For example, independent claim 13 (or Group II) recites dispatching an instruction  
where the instruction to an execution unit and to a replay system. The execution  
unit and the replay system are expressly set forth in independent claim 1 (of Group  
I). Claim 13 further recites (if the instruction did not execute properly), then  
determining whether the instruction should be routed back for re-execution or  
whether the instruction should be temporarily stored in a queue. Claim 2 (of Group  
I) sets forth a replay loop to route an instruction which executed improperly to an  
execution unit for replay. Claim 5 (of Group I) also recites a relay queue coupled to  
the checker to temporarily store an instruction that is not ready to execute properly.

the checker to temporarily store an instruction that is not ready to execute properly. For at least these reasons, it is clear that the subject matter of Group II should be examined with the subject matter of Group I. Applicants therefore request that at least claims 1-17 be examined together.

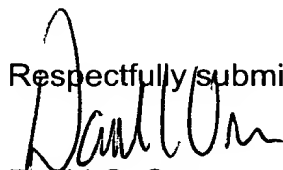
Applicants respectfully submit that the subject matter of all claims 1-19 is sufficiently related that the subject matter of one of the groups would necessarily encompass the subject matter of the other group of claims. M.P.E.P. §803 clearly states that:

[I]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.

It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in this application to avoid unnecessary Patent Office examinations and undue burden on the applicant.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorneys at the local Washington, D.C., area telephone number of (703) 312-6600 to discuss any matter in relation to this application

Respectfully submitted,



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